Amendments to the Claims:

The following claims will replace all prior versions of the claims in this application (in the unlikely event that no claims follow herein, the previously pending claims will remain):

1-16. (Cancelled).

17. (New) A disconnecting breaker comprising:

a) at least one set of breaker contacts;

b) an actuator mechanically connected to said at least one set of breaker contacts by a linking system, wherein said actuator controls the position of the breaker contacts between a closed position and an open position; and

c) a mechanical interlock that blocks the movement of the linking system and maintains said at least one set of breaker contacts in the open position.

18. (New) The disconnecting breaker of claim 17 further comprising:

an electromagnetically operated locking shackle capable of mechanically interlocking the actuator to prevent actuator control of said at least one set of breaker contacts.

19. (New) The disconnecting breaker of claim 18 further comprising:

an electrical interlock that interrupts control power to the electromagnet of the locking shackle.

20. (New) The disconnecting breaker of claim 17 further comprising:

an electrical interlock that interrupts control power to the actuator and prevents actuator control of said at least one set of breaker contacts.

21. (New) A disconnecting breaker comprising:

a) at least one set of breaker contacts;

b) an actuator mechanically connected to said at least one set of breaker contacts by a linking system, wherein said actuator controls the position of the breaker contacts between a closed position and an open position; and

c) an electromagnetically operated locking shackle capable of mechanically interlocking the actuator to prevent actuator control of said at least one set of breaker contacts.

22. (New) The disconnecting breaker of claim 21 further comprising:

an electrical interlock that interrupts control power to the actuator and prevents actuator control of said at least one set of breaker contacts.

23. (New) The disconnecting breaker of claim 21 further comprising:

an electrical interlock that interrupts control power to the electromagnet of the locking shackle.

24. (New) A disconnecting breaker comprising:

a) at least one set of breaker contacts;

b) an actuator mechanically connected to said at least one set of breaker contacts by a linking system, wherein said actuator controls the position of the breaker contacts between a closed position and an open position; and

c) an electrical interlock that interrupts control power to the actuator and prevents actuator control of said at least one set of breaker contacts.

25. (New) The disconnecting breaker of claim 24 further comprising:

an electromagnetically operated locking shackle capable of mechanically interlocking the actuator to prevent actuator control of said at least one set of breaker contacts.

26. (New) The disconnecting breaker of claim 25 further comprising:

an electrical interlock that interrupts control power to the electromagnet of the locking shackle.

27. (New) The disconnecting breaker of claim 24 further comprising:

a mechanical interlock that blocks the movement of the linking system and maintains said at least one set of breaker contacts in the open position.

28. (New) The disconnecting breaker of claim 17 further comprising:

an indicator indicating that the actuator is mechanically interlocked.

29. (New) The disconnecting breaker of claim 28 further comprising:

an indicator indicating that the actuator is electrically interlocked.

30. (New) The disconnecting breaker of claim 17 wherein said disconnecting breaker includes multiple sets of breaker contacts.

31. (New) The disconnecting breaker of claim 17 further comprising a hand operated first key and lock device to achieve electrical and mechanical interlocking of the actuator.

32. (New) The disconnecting breaker of claim 31 wherein the operation of the first key and lock device releases an electromagnetic locking shackle that interlocks a locking package on the actuator.

33. (New) The disconnecting breaker of claim 17 wherein the distance between the contacts in the open position comprises the conductor spacing for the disconnecting.

34. (New) The disconnecting breaker of claim 31, wherein the hand operated key and lock device automatically changes the breaker from said closed position to said open position.

35. (New) The disconnecting breaker of claim 31, further comprising a second lock device operated by the first key for mechanical interlocking of the linking system, wherein interlocking of a blocking plate and linkage system is achieved by a second key device within a third lock device.

36. (New) The disconnecting breaker of claim 35, further comprising an actuator for an earth knife which allows for connection of the earth knife to at least one of the breaker terminals per pole, thereby earthing at least one of the terminals, said earth knife may be locked either in earthed or unearthed position by a fourth lock device.

37. (New) The disconnecting breaker of claim 36 wherein the fourth lock device is locked with said second key device after said connection.

38. (New) The disconnecting breaker of claim 17, wherein the mechanical interlocking of the actuator is achieved by a remote control.

39. (New) A method for interlocking a disconnecting breaker with at least one set of breaker contacts comprising:

a) activating an actuator mechanically connected to said at least one set of breaker contacts by a linking system, wherein said actuator controls the position of the breaker contacts between a closed position and an open position; and

b) engaging a mechanical interlock that blocks the movement of the linking system and maintains said at least one set of breaker contacts in the open position.

40 (New) Method according to claim 39, wherein an electrical and a mechanical interlocking interlocks the actuator and prevents movement of the linking system.

41. (New) Method according to claim 40, wherein the electrical and mechanical interlocking of the actuator is achieved by means of a hand-operated first key- and lock device.

42. (New) Method according to claim 41, wherein the operation of the first key- and lock device releases an electromagnetic locking shackle that interlocks a locking package on the actuator.

43. (New) Method according to claim 40, wherein the electrical and mechanical interlocking of the actuator is carried out with the breaker in the open position, whereby the distance between the contacts comprises the conductor spacing for the disconnecting function.

44. (New) Method according to claim 41, wherein the electrical and mechanical interlocking of the actuator is carried out with the breaker in the closed position, whereby the hand-operated first key- and lock device achieves an automatic change of the breaker from said closed position to said open position.

45. (New) Method according to claim 41, wherein the first key of said first key- and lock device is freed from said key- and lock device following the interlocking of the actuator and is used in a second lock device for mechanical interlocking of the linking system with the aid of a blocking plate, which interlocking is achieved by a second key device with a third lock device.

46. (New) Method according to claim 45, wherein an actuator for an earth knife or equivalent earth device is unlocked from a fourth lock device with said second key device so as to allow connection of the earth knife to the breaker, and is locked with the second key device and the fourth lock device after said connection.

47. (New) Method according to claim 45, wherein the electrical and mechanical interlocking of the actuator of the breaker is carried out with the breaker in the closed position, whereby the first key device is blocked into the lock device following the interlocking of the actuator.

48. (New) Method according to claim 40, wherein the electrical and mechanical interlocking of the actuator of the breaker is achieved by means of a remote control.

49. (New) Method according to claim 48, wherein the remote-controlled electrical and mechanical interlocking of the actuator of the breaker is carried out with the breaker in the open position, whereby the distance between the contacts comprises the conductor spacing for the disconnecting function.

50. (New) Method according to claim 49, wherein said interlocking includes mechanical movement of a blocking device for an earth knife, after which movement of the earth knife involves mechanical interlocking of the linking system.